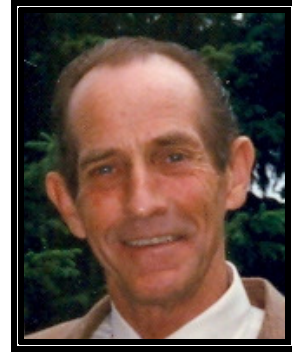


Obituary **Clarence “Junior” Powell Gibson, 81**



Clarence “Junior” Powell Gibson peacefully passed away February 9, 2010, at his home in Blackfoot, Idaho.

Junior was born January 17, 1929, in Caldwell, Idaho, the third son of John Clarence & Ada Gertrude Powell Gibson.

Junior spent the first seven years of his life in Caldwell while his father worked for the government in the Department of Navy, while his mother worked as a nurse in the Caldwell Hospital. The family returned to Rupert, Idaho, about 1937 to farm the original homestead east of town. The family still continues to farm this land. They also farmed other land that had been purchased while they lived in Caldwell.

Junior attended all twelve years of his education in the Rupert schools where he excelled in sports, especially basketball under the direction of George Hayes. Junior played in the East West All Stars Basketball game in 1948, and in that same year graduated from Rupert High School. He received many scholarship offers from Purdue, Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Washington Universities.

On January 14, 1951, he married his high school sweetheart, Evelyn Vernice Whittaker, at the Whittaker’s Elkhorn Ranch in Heyburn, Idaho. To this union three children blessed their lives: Steven Powell, Charles Scott, and Julee Keleen. Vernice passed away November 14, 1985. On April 4, 1987, Junior married Patricia Jeanne Jones Denney in Blackfoot, Idaho. This is where he has resided since.

Also in January of 1951 he answered the call to serve his country. He was called to serve in Austria and Germany as a tank commander. In 1956 he received his honorable discharge from the army and returned home to Rupert to farm with his father and older brother, Oris. He loved the land and the caring of his crops. Many wonderful years were spent farming with family and neighbors. Junior also worked many years as an inspector and assistant supervisor for the Department of Agriculture in the fresh fruit and vegetable division. When Junior retired from the State of Idaho, he became a buyer for various potato plants in south-central and southeastern Idaho. He enjoyed his association with many of the potato growers and formed many lasting relationships with them. Junior worked at this job until just a few months before his passing.

Junior enjoyed the farm life, family fishing trips, family outings, and a good day’s work. He liked horseback riding, and going on cattle drives with his brother, Oris, nephews, and sons. The branding trips to Gannett were also something he enjoyed. He loved caring for and breaking horses. One of his favorite pastimes was either going to or watching sporting events, particularly football and basketball. Family was important to Jr. and he always loved being with his grandchildren. He looked forward to visiting with the many people he knew through the potato business. When he moved to Blackfoot, he developed many lasting relationships and enjoyed all those he associated with.

He is survived by his wife, Pat of Blackfoot; sons, Steven (Bavia) of Rupert, Scott (Becky) of Boise; daughter Julee (Jeff) Denney of Pocatello; four stepdaughters, Debbie (Barry) Jones, Kathy (Alan) Peterson, Terry (Chris) Chapman; and one stepson, Jeff (Julee) Denney; eleven grandchildren, Cortney (Chase) Camberlango, Whitney (Cameron) Clark, Kassidee Denney, Jase Denney, Kaylee Denney, Brittney Gibson, Powell Gibson, Jared Gibson, and Brinlee Denney; and two great grandchildren, Tegan Camberlango and Burke Camberlango; sister, Deloris Balch and brother, Dr. Jarl (Shirley) Gibson both of Boise; several step-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Junior was preceded in death by his first wife, Vernice Whittaker Gibson; parents, Clarence and Ada Powell Gibson; brother, Oris; sister, Betty Gibson Johnson; sister-in-law, Jean MacRae Gibson; brother-in-law, Glenn Johnson; and stepson, Chris Chapman.

The family would like to thank Blackfoot Home Health and Hospice. Special thanks and appreciation to those who gave Junior special care, Kathi, Carrie, Selize, Sheila, Frank, and Newell. Junior’s family would like to thank all of Dad’s many family and friends who took time out of their busy lives to call or visit him these last few years, those times were very special to him.

Family will meet with friends and relatives from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, February 12, 2010 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Avenue in Blackfoot. Graveside services will be held at the Rupert Cemetery, 450 North Meridian in Rupert on February 13, 2010, at 10:30 a.m.